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amendment
6/17/04

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of making a nonwoven fabric having high elongation in a first direction and low elongation relative thereto in a second direction normal to the first direction, comprising the steps of:

(A) providing a nonwoven defined by substantially randomly oriented, substantially continuous fibers [of a poly (monolefin)] of polypropylene homopolymer;
and

(B) applying to the nonwoven a regular pattern of bonding points, the bonding points defining a total bonding area along the second direction greater than along the first direction, the bonding points forming a uniform pattern of bond density in the first direction different from the uniform pattern of bond density in the second direction, the regular pattern of bonding points being selected from the group consisting of:

(i) each bonding point having an aspect ratio of 1:1 and the spacing therebetween varying orthogonally;

(ii) each bonding point having an aspect ratio of other than 1:1, and the major and minor axes of each bonding point being non-parallel to the major and minor axes, respectively, of a majority of the adjacent bonding points;

(iii) each bonding point being formed from a collection of smaller bonding points that are grouped together; and

(iv) combinations thereof.